

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-13 DODE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /086 W
-----043150 112044Z /75

R 111640Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9177
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL BELFAST
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UK
SUBJECT: LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE: COMMUNIST AND OTHER
ATTENDANCE

SUMMARY - THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY THIS YEAR INVITED EURO-

COMMUNIST PARTIES TO SEND OBSERVERS TO ITS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JOINING THOSE FROM SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI) AFFILIATES, EASTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE LABOR PARTY FOR SEVERAL YEARS HAS INVITED EASTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES TO SEND OBSERVERS TO ITS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ALONG WITH OBSERVERS FROM PARTIES AFFILIATED WITH THE SI AND FROM DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ACCREDITED TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES. THIS YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, INVITATIONS WERE SENT TO COMMUNIST PARTIES IN THREE WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, FRANCE, ITALY AND SPAIN. OBSERVERS PLAY NO ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE -- THEY HAVE SEATS IN THE GALLERY AND RECEIVE INVITATIONS TO THE PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION AND OTHER OFFICIAL SOCIAL EVENTS.

2. THE BIGGEST NAME TO ATTEND (OTHER THAN FRANCOIS MITTARAND OF THE FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY, WHO ADDRESSED THE CONFERENCE AS A FRATERNAL DELEGATE) WAS SANTIAGO CARRILLO OF SPAIN. CARRILLO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MANUEL AZCARATE. THE PCI SENT GIOGIO NAPOLITANO AND THE PCF, JACQUES DENIS. EASTERN EUROPEAN PARTIES REPRESENTED WERE: BULGARIA (MILAN MILANOV AND VESSELIN IZMIRLIEV); EAST GERMANY (DEMOCRATIC PARTY -- EGON WINKELMANN AND ERICH ALBRECHT); POLAND (UNITED WORKERS PARTY -- TEODOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PALIMAKA AND BOGUNIEL SUJKA); HUNGARY (KAROLY GROSZ AND JOZSEF HOJDIC); ROMANIA (IOSIF BARIC AND MISCA LUPOESCU); AND YUGOSLAVIA (COMMUNIST LEAGUE -- NIJOZ DIZAREVIC).

3. OTHER INVITED NON-SI AFFILIATES WERE: CHILE, SOCIALIST PARTY AND MAPU; MOROCCO, USFP; NEPAL, CONGRESS PARTY; SOUTH AFRICA, ANC AND PAC; AND ZIMBABWE (RHODESIA), ZAPU. THE EC COMMISSION AND THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST GROUP ALSO SENT OBSERVERS.

4. OF THE COMMUNIST VISITORS, ONLY CARRILLO RECEIVED

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SIGNIFICANT MEDIA ATTENTION. HE WAS QUOTED AS TELLING
THE PRESS THAT SPANISH DEMOCRACY IS "STILL A VERY FRAGILE
PLANT WHICH NEEDS CAREFUL NURTURING" AND PREDICTING THAT
THE PCE WOULD SHORTLY JOIN WITH OTHER PARTIES IN A PO-
LITICAL ARRANGEMENT, SIMILAR TO THAT IN ITALY, BASED ON
A PROGRAM TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE SUAREZ GOVERNMENT.
CARRILLO SAID HE HAD ACCEPTED LABOR'S INVITATION BECAUSE
HE CONSIDERED THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST

AND SOCIALIST PARTIES VERY IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY SINCE EURO-COMMUNISM IS "NOT YET A COMPLETE IDEOLOGICAL SYSTEM".

5. COMMENT: THE INVITATIONS TO THE EURO-COMMUNIST PARTIES WERE THE RESULT OF AN INITIATIVE BY THE LEFT-WING DOMINATED INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE LABOR PARTY CHAIRED BY IAN MIKARDO, MP. IT WAS JUSTIFIED AS THE LOGICAL EXTENSION OF LABOR'S "BRIDGE-BUILDING" EFFORTS WITH THE EASTERN EUROPEAN PARTIES AND WAS NOT SERIOUSLY OPPOSED BY LABOR PARTY MODERATES OR THE GOVERNMENT. THE LABOR PARTY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE EURO-COMMUNISTS HAS NO DOUBT BEEN INFLUENCED BY THEIR PROXIMITY TO POWER IN ITALY AND FRANCE AND BY LABOR'S INCREASED CONTACT WITH COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS AT THE EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY.

6. LABOR'S DECISION TO INVITE THE EURO-COMMUNISTS RECEIVED ONLY MODEST ATTENTION FROM THE MEDIA, OTHER THAN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH AND SOME RIGHT-WING TABLOIDS. IT DID, HOWEVER, TRIGGER AN ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN BY THE ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE AIMS OF INDUSTRY GROUP WHICH EMPHASIZED THE GOVERNMENT'S ALLEGED TIES WITH MARXIST PARTIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 969220
Secure: OPEN
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INVITE
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UK
To: STATE USEEC MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e8599e32-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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